REMARKS

This Amendment, Response, and Request for Continued Examination (RCE) Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114 is being submitted in response to the final Office Action mailed June 3, 2005. Claims 1-36 are pending in the Application. Claims 1-36 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Scholl et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,742,762) (hereinafter referred to as '762) in view of Malik et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,832,503) (hereinafter referred to as '503).

In response to this rejection, Claims 1, 17, and 24 have been amended to further clarify the subject matter, which Applicants regard as the invention, and Claim 25 has been canceled, without prejudice or disclaimer to continued examination on the merits. These amendments are fully supported in the Specification, Drawings, and Claims of the Application and no new matter has been added. Based upon the amendments, reconsideration of the Application is respectfully requested in view of the following remarks.

Rejection of Claims 1-36 Under 35 U.S.C. 103(a):

Claims 1-36 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Scholl et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,742,762) (hereinafter referred to as '762) in view of Malik et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,832,503) (hereinafter referred to as '503).

Applicants respectfully disagree with Examiner's previously presented arguments. As stated in the previous office action, '762 disclose a web-based network management system in which a conventional web client can transmit a request to a web server for obtaining information. In response the web server forwards the request to a network management gateway (NMG) that in turn parses and translates the request, converts the request into appropriate network management service request, and forwards each request

to an appropriate managed network. The NMG converts the responses to the requests received from the managed network into HTML document files and transmits them to the web server. The web server in turn sends the HTML files to the requesting web client.

'503 does not overcome the inadequacies of '762. Although '503 discloses the use of templates to generate configuration records associated with a network device, it does not teach or suggest a client can communicate with an NMS server, and through which a connection can be opened between the NMS server and a network device.

The disclosures of both '762 and '503 are wholly different from the Applicants current system of utilizing an operational support services (OSS) client to communicate provisioning templates to network devices via a network management system (NMS) server.

However, in effort to advance prosecution, the Applicant has amended Claims 1, 17, and 24 to include limitations which further define the invention and distinguish these claims from the cited prior art.

Claim 1 has been amended to recite:

1. A method of managing telecommunications networks, comprising:

accessing an operations support services (OSS) client;

opening a first connection between the OSS client and a first network management system (NMS) server;

opening a second connection through the OSS client between the first NMS server and a first network device loading a first provisioning template <u>containing both required parameters and modifiable parameters</u> into the OSS client; and

executing the first provisioning template to provision services within the first network device;

<u>wherein said provisioning template may be utilized to configure both said first</u> <u>network device, and a plurality of additional network devices.</u>

Claim 17 has been amended to recite:

17. A method of managing telecommunications networks, comprising:

accessing an operations support services (OSS) client;

loading a first control template into the OSS client;

executing the first control template to establish a first connection with a first network management system (NMS) server and a second connection with a second network device;

loading a first provisioning template <u>containing both required parameters and</u> <u>modifiable parameters</u> into the OSS client; and

executing the first provisioning template to provision services within the first network device<u>;</u>

<u>wherein said provisioning template may be utilized to configure both said first</u> <u>network device, and a plurality of additional network devices.</u>

Claim 24 has been amended to recite:

24. A method of managing telecommunications networks, comprising:

accessing an operations support services (OSS) client;

loading a batch template into the OSS client; ~~and~~

~~executing the batch template.~~

<u>executing a first control template to establish a first connection with a first network</u> <u>management system (NMS) server and a second connection with a first network device;</u> <u>and</u>

<u>executing a first provisioning template containing both required parameters and</u> <u>modifiable parameters to provision services within the first network device;</u>

wherein said provisioning template may be utilized to configure both said first network device, and a plurality of additional network devices.
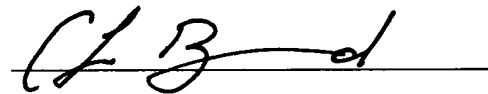
Neither '762 nor '503 discloses a provisioning template containing both required parameters that are to be held constant and modifiable parameters that are capable of configuring a plurality of different and similar network devices. Support for this limitation can be found on page 64 of the Application as filed. In light of the amendments to the claims and the comments presented herewith, the Applicants respectfully submit that this rejection is now moot, and its withdrawal is requested.

CONCLUSION

Applicants would like to thank Examiner for the attention and consideration accorded the present Application. 'Should Examiner determine that any further action is necessary to place the Application in condition for allowance, Examiner is encouraged to contact undersigned Counsel at the telephone number, facsimile number, address, or email address provided below. It is not believed that any fees for additional claims, extensions of time, or the like are required beyond those that may otherwise be indicated in the documents accompanying this paper (**a one-month extension is indicated**). However, if such additional fees are required, Examiner is encouraged to notify undersigned Counsel at Examiner's earliest convenience.

Respectfully submitted,

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